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PEEL DAILY NEWS

Oct. 12, 2017

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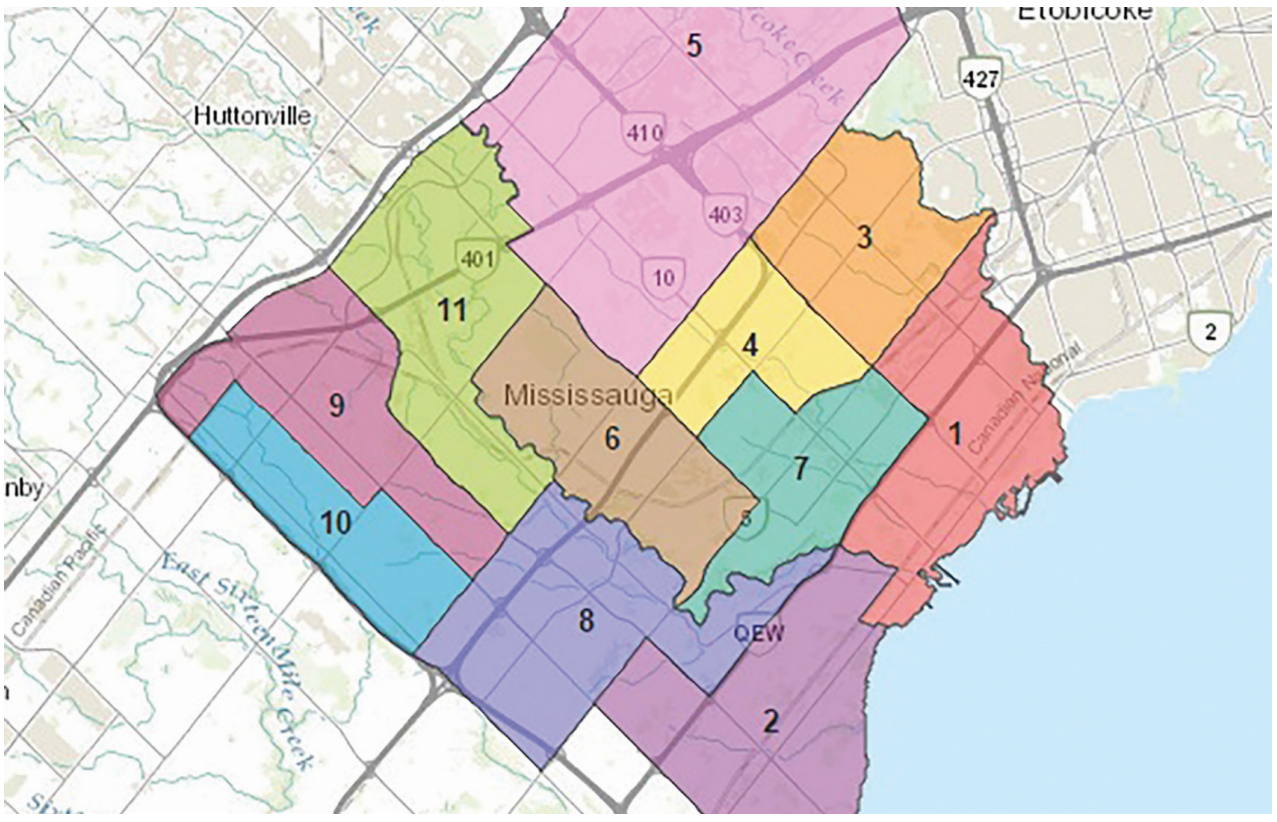

A look at the existing boundaries of Wards wihin the City of Mississauga, as seen from a ward map. (Submitted Photo)

Council OKs Review of Mississauga Ward Boundaries

by **Marco Patrone**

With some parts of Mississauga growing faster than others, the city has decided to review the boundaries of its wards for the first time in 12 years.

Councillors voted overwhelmingly in favour of a motion by Pat Saito to "undertake a ward boundary review in preparation for the 2022 election."

City Manager Janice Baker told council the city is due to revisit its ward boundaries.

"They've really been done in the past at council's request. Obviously, we've run out of any kind of runway to look at that now for 2018," she said.

"It would make sense to me, if there was a desire to look at it and I suggest that after 12 years now since the last one was done, there might be some logic in taking another look at it."

The motion also called for a committee to be struck consisting of council, residents and staff to provide input into the process. It followed a snippy debate over councillors expense budgets, the second in two weeks.

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If you are a Zoomer, a Boomer a Caregiver, or just interested in getting more involved in your community, Sheridan Centre is the place to be on Wednesday, October 18th. Come out and visit over 35 exhibitors from both the business and non-profit communities, all catering to the 45+ age group. Collect information, learn about the Mall Walking Club and enter to win great draw prizes! Presented in partnership with CARP - a new vision of aging for Canada.

Participants include:

Canadian Hearing Society
Canadian National Institute for the Blind
CARP
City of Mississauga Library - Sheridan Branch Library
Epilepsy South Centre Ontario
Fung Loy Kok Taoist Tai Chi
Glen Oaks Funeral Home & Cemetery by Arbor Gardens
Health & Healing Family Chiropractic Dr. Tyler Kong
Heart House Hospice
Judi Lloyd, Royal LePage Realty
Life Mark Seniors Wellness
Mississauga Senior Games
Northern Reflections
Peel Daily News
Peel Regional Police
Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services
Right at Home
Sheridan Branch Library
Sheridan Mall Walking Club
South Peel Naturalists' Club
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The Centre for Skills Development & Training - Clarkson
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Brampton Has Highest Insurance Rates

No one is quite sure why it is, but Brampton remains by far the most expensive city in Ontario to insure a car.

A 2017 survey released Tuesday by the Kanetix.ca insurance website notes that drivers in the Flower City pay an average premium of $2,268 - $443 more than the $1,825 drivers pay each year in Vaughan, the second most expensive city for car insurance in the province.

Mississauga ranks third with an average premium of $1,788, followed by Markham at $1,785 and the City of Toronto at $1,743.

Rounding out the Top 10 are Richmond Hill, Ajax, Hamilton, Pickering and Whitby, all well above the provincial average premium of $1,316..

There are many reasons for high insurance rates, from expensive auto body shops and outright fraud to bad driving, rising claims and industry practices that link premiums to where you live and not just your driving record.

Last year, a Kanetix official said one thing that may be happening in Brampton is that many drivers in the city don't have that much experience behind the wheel. As well, Brampton and Mississauga have huge transport sectors, with thousands of trucks and drivers delivering goods along Peel's roads every day, making traffic congested and prone to more accidents.

High car insurance rates have been an issue at Queen's Park for years and the Wynne government has come under fire for failing to meet the promise it made to the NDP in a 2013 minority government deal to lower premiums by 15 per cent by mid-2015.

The Liberals brought in reforms, passed new laws and made other moves to cut costs for the insurance industry by clamping down on tow truck fraud and excessive legal fees as well as legal settlements.

Toronto man arrested after apartment shooting in Mississauga

by **Alex Gregory**

12 Division's Criminal Investigation Bureau have charged a Toronto man with multiple attempted murder and weapon offenses after a shooting that occurred at a Mississauga apartment complex last month.

The culprit shot a 34-year-old male victim outside his apartment unit on Sept. 19, 2017 in the Mississauga Valley Boulevard and Central Parkway area.

21-year-old Canute McKenzie was identified via video surveillance footage after the shooting, and was arrested last Friday, Sept. 29.

The firearm used in the shooting was recovered during a search warrant.

McKenzie has been charged with numerous offenses, including attempted murder, carrying a concealed weapon, failure to comply and possession of marijuana and cocaine.

McKenzie was held for a bail hearing and appeared in Brampton court last week.

Investigators are asking for the public's assistance in identifying a second male that was present during the shooting.

The suspect has been described as male Black, clean shaven, with cornrow style hair. He was last seen wearing a white t-shirt, green tack pants, and white running shoes.

Residents with information regarding this incident or the identity of the suspect is asked to contact 12 Division at (905) 453-2121, ext. 1233.

Information may also be left anonymously by calling Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting www.peelcrimestoppers.ca or by sending a text message to CRIMES (274637) with the word 'PEEL' and then your tip.

Photo Courtesy of Peel Police

City to look at free parking in business area for December

The city is considering waiving parking fees again for the Port Credit business district in December to help businesses boost their pre-Christmas sales.

Ward 1 councillor Jim Tovey, who represents the community, tabled a motion Wednesday asking for a staff report on free parking in the Port Credit Business Improvement Area to come back to full council in time to implement the measure for December.

The move aims to make it easier for retailers to compete with malls and big box stores that have free parking in their lots.

Last year, Mississauga waived parking fees in Port Credit and Clarkson business improvement areas, forgoing potential revenue of $45,500.

Missing Man in Brampton

22 Division's Criminal Investigation Bureau is asking for help locating a missing 34-year-old Brampton man.

Abhijeet Singh was last seen on Friday, Sept. 8, 2017 at his home.

He is described as male, South Asian, with a medium complexion. He is 5'10" tall, 160 lbs. and with a medium build.

He had short black hair and a well trimmed black beard and moustache when last seen. He also has a tattoo of the word "GORU" on his right forearm.

Anyone with information on his whereabouts is asked to call 22 Division at (905) 453–2121, ext. 2233.

Information may also be left anonymously by calling Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting www.peelcrimestoppers.ca.

Peel Police Urge Residents to be Vigilant after "Extortion Scam"

Peel Regional Police's Fraud Bureau is warning members of the public about an "Extortion Scam" currently circulating, targeting all Canadians.

Police have received reports from residents who have received phone calls from persons posing as Government or Police Officials from various federal agencies including, and not limited to, the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) the RCMP or a Regional Police service.

The target is led to believe by the official that they or their loved ones are under investigation in relation to their Canadian Status, outstanding taxes or police investigation. They are told they must pay money immediately, or they will be arrested.

The caller will go on to provide very specific payment instructions, directing them to give Bitcoin digital currency, Western Union or Money Gram transfers, prepaid credit card or iTunes cards.

They will also request copies of personal identification documents, for example Drivers license, citizenship documents, or passports, etc.

Police are reminding the public that government officials will not contact you directly and demand money in exchange for securing your Canadian Status.

Residents are urged to not take any immediate action, and verify what is being said by the caller. Government officials do not request copies of personal documents over the phone.

Furthermore, residents are urged to be mindful of Caller ID spoofing. Fraudsters can manipulate call displays or provide real government agency contact numbers in order to appear legitimate.

Talk to friends, family and loved ones about this scam and help them to protect themselves.

For more information about this scam and other fraud scams currently affecting Canadians, please visit the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre website at www.antifraudcentre.ca.

Peel Police's Crime Prevention Bureau can also provide valuable tips and suggestions. It can be reached on Twitter via @PeelCrimePrev.

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PEEL DAILY NEWS

New ward boundaries debated in Council

Continued from Pg 1

Ward 7 Councillor Nando Iannicca wants a boost in his expense budget to cover the cost of running his growing constituency.

"Ward 7 right now is twice as big as a couple of wards. Wards one and two are 16,000, 17,000 mailers. My ward is 39,000," Iannicca said.

"My residents are not second class citizens. They deserve to be fairly represented."

The annual office budgets for Councillors run between $26,800 to just over $32,000. If they don't use the entire amount, the unused portion is transferred over to the following year.

Dismissed two weeks ago as a 'waste of time' Iannicca's calls for more expense cash were met with scorn again in Wednesday's meeting.

Ward 5 Councillor Carolyn Parrish described the debate as "tedious and a little self-serving."

Ron Starr of Ward 6 urged his colleagues, "let's move on."

Saito expressed some sympathy for Iannicca, but said a review of boundaries must be done before revisiting budget expenses.

"I agree that the ward boundaries in the downtown core need to be re-examined. I think that is what should happen before any review of expense accounts is done. I think that would be premature to readjust any member of council's expense money until we have had a good solid look at the ward boundaries," she said.

Iannicca spoke of the need to revisit the issue of representation in a city where some areas are obviously growing faster than others.

"There's a 'serious imbalance in the existing ward population and size and therefore distorted voter parity," he said, referring to consultants' reports.

"Ours is already distorted and it's getting worse and that's the fundamental issue I'm talking about, what's equitable and what's fair. We need to plop a couple of wards into our community. That's not gonna happen."

Iannicca says adding wards would be 'troublesome'. "I don't think we want to add more. It's because of the issues with the Region of Peel."

The review is expected to look at a number of issues related to how the city's population has grown and what the future may look like.

"There are principles around planning and natural boundaries and population growth and these things would be looked at. A radical idea for you, if you want to think about it would be maybe a citizen's panel to look at it after the next election," said Janice Baker.

Parrish asks for financial details of foreign trade trips, seeks "transparency"

by **John Valorzi**

Councillor Carolyn Parrish wants to see more transparency when local politicians go on foreign trips, including specifics on costs and benefits.

The Ward 5 councillor says the Region of Peel is looking at making this a practice and she wants the same for Mississauga, whose mayor and economic development officials just came back from an investment mission to Japan, their third global trip in the last three years.

Local taxpayer groups have long sought details on how much such trips cost - likely tens of thousands of dollars - and whether they are worth the expense for what they deliver.

"When these trips are taken, even if they're staff trips, who went on them, how much it costs for the staff and councillors to go on them should be included as part of the report," said Parrish, who sits on Peel Region's expense committee.

"I'd like to include that here once it's completed at the region."

The latest Japan trip for Mayor Bonnie Crombie helped cement a major new aerospace investment from Japan's Tohmei Industries for Mississauga, adding to the aerospace cluster of more than 300 companies and 27,000 workers. Meanwhile, a big Japanese hotel operator, Toyoko Inn Co., is also looking to expand its chain of no-frills business hotels to the Peel city.

"I'm not doing this in a critical way." Parrish told council Wednesday, addressing a report by Crombie on her week-long commercial mission to Japan, her second in two years.

In 2015, the mayor also travelled to South America and helped lure a $56-million pharma investment from Brazilian drug maker BioLab to Mississauga.

"It's probably very inexpensive compared to what you pulled off," Parrish said, congratulating the mayor on the latest mission.

"You brought an amazing company to Mississauga. Hopefully it will be in Ward 5, where everything goes. But I think in future we should preempt being instructed to do so (be transparent). I know there's lots of curiosity about these trips and people (should) see it's a pretty streamlined group that goes and it's not expensive and it does produce results."

Ward 9 councilor Pat Saito also lauded Crombie for the Japanese mission and said the potential Toyoko Inn expansion would be a shot in the arm to the local tourist sector, which is trying to lure more Asian visitors to the city.

"Toyoko Inn is looking to locate in the City of Mississauga," Saito said.

"From a tourism perspective that will be a huge draw as we are in tourism right now starting to look at attracting tourists from China and Japan. Having a hotel chain from Japan that is well respected will go a long way to help that promotion."

Crombie said she went with two others to Japan - her chief of staff Rob Trewartha and economic development head Harold Dremin and the travel costs for two of them was $13,500. Costs for the third have not yet been finalized.

A Toyoko Inn in Japan. (Submitted Photo)

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Debts spiralling out of control across Canada, the U.S.

John Valorzi
Columnist

Two recent reports on the financial state of Canadian and U.S. governments paint a grim picture of the future -- for taxpayers, retirees and anybody who depends on government for their livelihood.

A parliamentary budget office analysis says Ottawa is on a sustainable path to balance its books by 2040 and pay off its debt by 2060.

But the combined debts of provincial and territorial governments are projected to jump to more than 100 per cent of gross domestic product from 28 per cent of GDP within the next 75 years under existing fiscal policies.

Among the provinces, the report said two bright spots are Quebec and Nova Scotia, while energy-producing provinces Alberta and Newfoundland and Labrador face the biggest challenges.

Combined federal and provincial net debt has increased from $834 billion in 2008 to a projected $1.3 trillion -- about 70 per cent of the $1.8 trillion economy.

In the United States, a blog on the ZeroHedge global economy site noted that the unfunded liabilities of the American government over the next 75 years to finance future social security pensions and medicare payments is $46.7 trillion.

Yes, TRILLION -- with a T.

The data came from a U.S. Treasury report on the state of the nation's long-term finances.

Meanwhile, U.S. federal debt has just edged over the $20 trillion mark and could rise to $30 trillion within a decade.

What does this all mean?

To me, it challenges governments to get their financial house in order over the next few years to avoid wrenching decisions further down the road that will batter taxpayers, retirees, workers and businesses.

Mostafa Askari, Canada's assistant parliamentary budget officer, says his office's report gives governments an inkling of what lies ahead for their finances under current spending and tax policies.

"The idea is that if you wait too long, the challenge becomes much bigger and more painful for people. This provides a framework for debate on these policy issues."

That's an understatement. No matter what policies you try, getting a government's finances under control will hurt someone, usually taxpayers and pensioners.

I have been a debt hawk for years and have encouraged policymakers to take a long-term view of the problem.

In past columns, I have argued for a 10-year light austerity plan to cut the size of the public payroll by about a third, assess all government spending to see if it's effective and find new revenue sources -- with asset sales or other ways without piling more taxes on the backs of taxpayers.

One thing I know for sure, if government restored the public's faith that their tax dollars were well spent you might succeed in wiping out the underground cash economy that costs governments billions in lost taxes and is such a big part of everyday life.

However, such major policy changes would be a hard political sell. We need a national debate on these things but politicians should be wary.

Citizens who have been given free things, such as welfare, prescription drugs, cheap daycare, and numerous other benefits will fight hard against anyone who tries to scale them back.

Moreover, big crony capitalists like Bombardier and others who get billions from governments of all stripes will lobby aggressively against changes to the status quo.

In both countries, governments should be debating and looking at means testing their pension and social programs.

That means richer U.S. pensioners who can easily afford to live without social security would have those benefits cut off.

The U.S. may have to look at a value added tax - something like our GST - to help pay for future pensions and medical benefits.

Governments on both sides of the border should also look at delaying retirement for two years to 67 from the current 65 as many countries around the world have been doing.

For example, Denmark, France, Germany and Spain have decided to raise the retirement age from 65 to 67 years, while the goal is 68 years in Britain and Ireland.

A few years ago, the Harper government pushed back the Old Age Security eligibility to 67 from 65 -- starting in about about five or six years - but that policy was rejected when the Liberals took power in 2015.

John Valorzi is a veteran journalist and former business editor at the Canadian Press.

john.valorzi@gmail.com

Photo Courtesy of Pixabay.com

Teamsters strike at Pearson settled after nearly three months

by **John Valorzi**

About 700 ground crew workers have struck a tentative deal with Swissport Canada, ending a 10-week strike by baggage handlers, cabin cleaners and others that had disrupted operations at Pearson Airport.

The unionized members of Teamsters Local 419 agreed to the new contract with the private global cargo handler late Monday after rejecting several previous offers.

Details of the new deal, its length and financial terms, were not disclosed pending a ratification meeting.

That ratification date has not been set but the union local's general meeting will take place Sunday, Oct. 29 at the union hall on Meyerside Drive in northeastern Mississauga.

Owned by a Swiss multinational that operates around the world, Swissport provides baggage handing services to 30 of Pearson's 74 airlines, including British Airways, Sunwing, Air Transat, Air France and Germany's Lufthansa.

The Teamsters workers went on strike July 27 in a dispute over planned pay and benefit cuts by the company, scheduling issues and troubled relations with Swissport managers.

The strike slowed down operations at Pearson, causing flight delays, baggage backlogs and processing delays for tens of thousands of travellers.

Swissport Cargo Handling is located on Mississauga's Silver Dart Dr. and is the Canadian unit of Zurich-based Swissport, a multinational that's the world's largest provider of air cargo handling services.

The company has 62,000 employees and 133 warehouses around the globe.

Air Canada and WestJet, this country's two biggest carriers, were not affected by the Swissport strike. They have their own baggage operations or use other companies. U.S. airlines like Delta, United and American were also not affected.

Pearson Airport (PDN File Photo)

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Trudeau may back off on tax 'silliness', says Retail Council

by **Marco Patrone**

The Trudeau government may "back down" under pressure as critics slam "silly" proposed tax changes that impact business and low-income workers, a retail association says.

"We're hopeful that we'll put a bullet through this before it ever takes effect," says Karl Littler, VP of Public Affairs for the Retail Council of Canada.

The Federal government changes could mean taxing employee benefits like free meals for restaurant workers. The controversy comes on the heels of the Trudeau Government's Tax Fairness Plan that could add billions in tax burdens to small businesses.

Littler is expecting the government may backpedal this latest proposal.

"They were intending to move forward on this January 1. I have a feeling they will be backing off that pretty soon," he said.

The Retail Council, which represents 45,000 stores, says there is confusion over rules and "until we get official notice that they're taxable we're not taxing them."

In its latest advisory, Canada Revenue Agency tells employers "when an employee receives a discount on merchandise because of their employment, the value of the discount is generally included in the employee's income."

Corinne Pohlmann of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business says the changes mean an employee discount on an article like clothing, which wasn't taxed before, will be in future.

"If you're offering something that's below your cost as an employer, it has to be deemed a taxable benefit and an employee will now have to pay tax on that," she said.

Even an employee meal in a restaurant might have to be accounted for on a T4 statement and subject to income tax.

Mississauga restaurant worker Vernon Baney says he can see how the changes could make life more complicated for people like him.

"It gets pretty sticky when it comes to food. It's one thing if I work in a clothing store and I get 2 per cent off a shirt. That's pretty cut and dry but when it comes to something consumable like [food] it can get kind of complicated," Baney said.

The CFIB says the changes could add a substantial administrative burden to businesses.

"The employer now has to do all kinds of paperwork to make sure they're properly documenting what the employee is getting as a discount," Pohlmann says.

A statement from Finance Minister Bill Morneau's office suggests the rule changes might still be evolving.

"I'm committed to ensuring that Canada Revenue Agency works better with stakeholders when reviewing its interpretation of the income tax. Our goal is to ensure the agency does not impose additional administrative burdens on business. Canadians deserve a tax system that is efficient and fair."

Local restaurant employees, like Laura at Maranello Cafe in Port Credit (above), stand to be affected by proposed legislation that would tax benefits like free meals for workers. (PDN File Photo)

Littler believes the are indicators the government is already rethinking its position.

"They're basically sending up a flag saying, hey, not so fast. Do I think they'll back down, yes I do. But, until they make it clear they're backing down, I can't rely on that because it's a legal obligation once it becomes the interpretation of law."

"There is uncertainty around it. Our people comply with the law. They may not like the law, but they comply with the law. Right now CRA is confused. They've got two conflicting documents saying two different things, so yeah there's confusion," he said.

The matter has also drawn fire from Conservative finance critic Pierre Poilievre who says the changes are an attack on low paid workers in the retail sector.

"Why would the government want to abandon long-standing practice to start taxing a store employee for a 20% discount on a pair of jeans?" Poilievre asked.

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Trudeau "tax grab" expands to retail and service sectors

Ottawa's hunger for more revenues to feed the government's spending addiction is expanding to the retail, food and service sectors.

Reports in the Globe and Mail and other media outlets over the weekend say the taxman will now consider employee discounts on things like shoes, jeans. shirts and cheap meals as taxable benefits subject to taxes.

Such a change would impact millions of food and retail workers across Canada and Peel Region as many companies try to offset lower wages in their sectors with discounts and other benefits for their workers.

The Liberals are already under fire from business groups like the Mississauga and Brampton boards of trade over its "tax fairness" plans, which aim to change tax rules affecting small business owners that could raise up to $7 billion a year in additional taxes.

The Liberals argue that wealthier Canadians should pay more to give breaks to the middle class, though the 2015 tax cut for middle-income earners has been eaten up by rising costs of living, and hikes to local and other taxes.

Now Ottawa will come under criticism for hurting lower-paid workers with their tax policies.

The federal Tories have hammered the government over its tax policies. urging them to get control over their spending so they don't have to squeeze the pocketbooks of working Canadians.

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Councillor identifies "ideal" location for Amazon HQ2

by **Marco Patrone and John Valorzi**

The city of Brampton has been looking at an area north of Derry Rd, between Highway 10 and Kennedy Rd. as a potential choice for e-commerce giant Amazon's second headquarters.

The City has not released the exact location, but Councillor Martin Medeiros says the criteria have been clear from the beginning of the bid process, which ends Oct. 19, next Thursday. A GTA-wide offer from Toronto Global is expected to contain several possible sites in the region.

The winning site " has to be close to the major highways, have enough space to take on a big company as Amazon, access to amenities important to Amazon in terms of transportation, close to recreational facilities, etc." Medeiros told Peel Daily News.

He says there are two or three sites in Brampton which meet the requirements, but one stands out for its proximity to all major highways, the airport and is controlled by the city.

"A possible site, if you think of Highway 10 and Kennedy, an area north of Derry near Kennedy the city owns which could be a possible ideal location."

The Peel City's proximity to Pearson International Airport, plans to build a new Brampton university, the area's growing reputation as a hub for high tech companies in aerospace and advanced manufacturing are all attractive features.

The city already is home to Amazon's 850,000-square-foot robotic distribution centre on Heritage Road.

Last month, Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos announced plans to solicit bids from across North America from cities looking to host the company's second headquarters, its first outside Seattle. At stake are 50,000 jobs and an estimated $50 billion in economic spinoffs.

"We expect HQ2 to be a full equal to our Seattle headquarters," said Bezos.

"Amazon HQ2 will bring billions of dollars in upfront and ongoing investments, and tens of thousands of high-paying jobs. We're excited to find a second home."

Amazon says the construction of the new heaquarters alone would be a US$5 billion investment.

On Sept. 14, Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie, Brampton's Linda Jeffrey, Toronto's John Tory and other local leaders in Halton, York and Durham approved the launch of a GTA-wide bid for the Amazon project, with the help of the federal and provincial governments.

The cities are working with Toronto Global to attract foreign investment to the

GTA.

In an exclusive interview with PDN's John Valorzi, Toronto Global Chairman Mark Cohon said the bid will highlight the GTAs many attractive qualities as a business centre.

"As the commercial centre of the country, this is the Toronto region's opportunity to showcase our attractive regional building sites, highlight our expansive and rapidly growing technology ecosystem, and introduce the depth and breadth of our global talent pool," he said.

The GTA bid will be overseen by the Ontario government, suggesting the province, and Ottawa most likely, are prepared to kick in hundreds of millions— perhaps billions— in subsidies to lure Amazon here.

The local bid got off to a contentious start when comments by John Tory and Bonnie Crombie suggested the bid would be Toronto-centric. Medeiros said the incident prompted Brampton's Mayor to 'read the riot act' to other partners in the GTA bid.

Toronto Global's $19.5 million startup budget is financed by Ottawa, Ontario, Brampton, Mississauga and other GTA cities, so local municipalities each have a financial stake in the marketing agency set up in February to seek new foreign investment to the region.

"She definitely did. She made it very clear of her disappointment of the stuff that's been out in the media when it came out that it was a city of Toronto bid. Bonnie Crombie said she'd support Toronto's bid. She (Jeffrey) was very upset about it."

Once the initial controversy died down, the partners moved ahead with plans to table a bid aimed at benefiting the entire GTA.

Amazon says it will make its choice known next year.

Opinion

Fluoridation in water should be better controlled, says Brampton councillor

Health Canada, the provincial Minister of Health and municipal officers of health have been telling the Canadian public that fluoride is added to municipal drinking water to prevent tooth decay.

In 1957, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that water fluoridation is a medication.

The actual product added to the drinking water supply by municipalities is a waste chemical product known as hydrofluorosilicic acid, which is harmful to humans and the environment.

Fluoride has been classified a neuro toxin similar in toxicity to arsenic and lead. The levels for lead is 1.5 parts per million, 1.0 ppm for arsenic and for fluoride 400 ppm.

Health Canada recommends that toxicology reviews be done on the fluoridation product to ensure its safety at the maximum use level.

While Peel Regional health officials have been telling municipal councillors [the decision makers] that the required toxicology studies have been done, no toxicology studies have been provided to council for review. Both the US EPA and Health Canada have disclosed that they have no records of any toxicology studies.

Since the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that water fluoridation is a medication, municipal councillors have been approving adding a toxic chemical compound [HFSA] that is unapproved, unregulated, and a untested illegal drug to residents' drinking water without the people's informed consent. Section 7.31 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects "the people's right to be from unwanted medical treatment."

The US Centre for Disease Control has admitted that fluoride works topically and not by ingestion. Dr. Cooney, the former chief dental officer for Health Canada, has conceded that water fluoridation prevents less than one half a cavity per child.

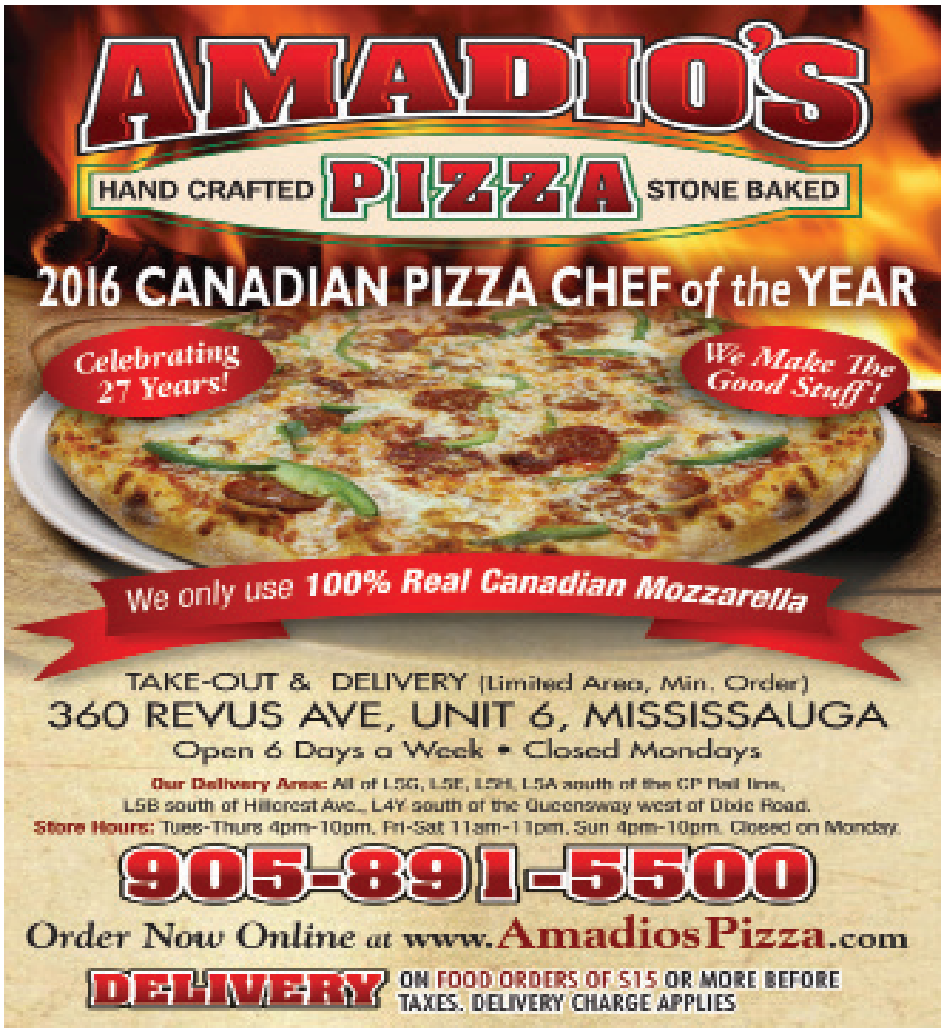
The US National institute of Dental Research found that children drinking fluoridated water averaged only about half a cavity less than those drinking unfluoridated water.

As people may also recall, Liberal MPP Bob Delaney (Mississauga-Streetsville) introduced a private members bill last year to legislate water fluoridation across the province. The bill was unanimously supported by all three parties, went to a second reading and never made it to a third reading for passage into law.

The fishy thing about water fluoridation that should be exposed is, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that water fluoridation is a medication. Health Canada recommends toxicology reviews of the fluoridation product to ensure its safety. No one has ever done any toxicology studies on the product [HFSA] to ensure its safety.

The province gave the approval responsibility to municipal councillors who don't have the ability to do the toxicology studies on the product to ensure its safety.

John Sprovieri is the Ward 9 and 10 Brampton councillor. He has long been seeking more local control over the fluoridation system.



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PDN BUSINESS

Association plans crackdown on real estate cheats

by **John Valorzi**

Real estate agents in Mississauga, Brampton and across the province will be hit with stiffer fines if they break conflict of interest guidelines when they represent both buyers and sellers in a single transaction.

The Liberal government of Premier Kathleen Wynne tabled new consumer protection legislation Thursday that updates a number of laws, including the 2002 Real Estate Business Brokers Act as well as legislation that affects new home warranties, travel services and resale tickets.

The proposed legislation "will provide consumers with the protection they deserve when making significant purchases — like a new home, a dream vacation or concert tickets," Government and Consumer Service Minister Tracy MacCharles said at Queen's Park.

"Building a fair, safe and informed marketplace is a key priority of this government."

The real estate law changes will see fines for unethical realtors double to $50,000, while brokerages who break the law would be fined up to $100,000 for each violation.

New rules will also require a home seller who wants to buy a house listed by their own agent to get another agent assigned from the same brokerage. The new system is called mandatory designated representation.

The province has been reviewing realtor rules to crack down on an industry practice known as multiple representation, a development that has become more prevalent in recent years in the hot housing markets of Mississauga, Brampton, Toronto and other parts of the GTA.

"It's been a serious problem," said Ray Dubash, an executive with the Mississauga Real Estate Board, a 63-year-old group based on Ridgeway Dr. that represents 50 realty companies -- from Remax to Royal Lepage to Sutton Group -- and 1.350 agents in the city.

The Mississauga board commended the changes, saying its provincial partner, the Ontario Real Estate Association, believes the new system will set a North American leading standard for greater transparency and clarity for real estate agents.

"These new rules are some of the strictest in North America when it comes to transparency and consumer protection," said association president-elect David Reid.

"Ontario realtors were pleased to work with the government to bring more clarity of a Realtors' duties to the consumer and address any real or perceived conflict of interest."

In recent years, there have been a number of media reports and industry round-tables that showed some agents were double-ending sales to cash, in some cases manipulating bidding wars so they wouldn't have to split the sales commission with another agent.

The latest rule changes for realtors are part of the government's Fair Housing Plan announced in the spring that tried to stop surging home prices in the GTA by slapping a 15 per cent foreign buyers tax and imposing other restrictions to slow down the rise in house prices and provide more low-cost housing.

Under the new changes, the ban on multiple representation won't be complete, however. In some cases the practice will still be allowed, mainly in rural communities -- like Caledon -- where there are not many agents.

Rules are also relaxed for family sales where buyer and seller know each other and some commercial sales where the buyer and seller both have knowledge and proper legal advice.

While the changes are welcomed, the incentive for realtors to double-dip have eased as housing prices go through a softer market and there are fewer bidding wars than their were this recent spring before the new foreign buyers rules came into effect.

For example, Mississauga home sales fell more than 38 per cent to just 633 units in August. So far this year, 6,781 houses or condos were sold, down 18.8 per cent.

"Home sales were still running at subdued levels in August, little changed from June and July on a seasonally adjusted basis," said Branden Kameka, president of the Mississauga board.

"On the supply side, following a bit of a surge in the spring new listings have been coming back down over the summer. That has moved the sales-to-new listings ratio back up to about 50 per cent from a low of about 40 per cent a couple of months ago, so there is some evidence that the market is stabilizing."

Branden Kameka of MREB (Submitted Photo)

Cipher Pharma partner's plants in Puerto Rico damaged

Mississauga drug company Cipher Pharmaceuticals Inc. has enough supply of its key drugs despite damage caused by Hurricane Maria to its manufacturing partner's plants in Puerto Rico.

Cipher. based on Argentia Road in northwestern Mississauga, says its partner Galephar sustained damage to its two plants in Puerto Rico. One in Humacao makes Absorica, Epuris, and Lipofen acne drugs, and the other in Juncos manufactures Conzip and Durela products.

Cipher says the plant in Juncos had some minor weather-related damage that has been repaired.

The plant in in Humacao sustained damage to the exterior of the production building. Clean-up and repair work has begun and the plant should reopen by mid- to late-November.

"Based on current inventory levels with the company's various distribution partners, recent and pending product shipments, and the current timeline for the resumption of production at the Humacao facility, Cipher does not anticipate an interruption in Absorica or Epuris supply," the company said in a statement.

"Further, no material impact is anticipated across Cipher's full product portfolio."

Cipher is a specialty pharmaceutical company that focuses on on dermatology drugs like acne treatment medicines Epuris and Absorica. It has a workforce of about 80 employees.

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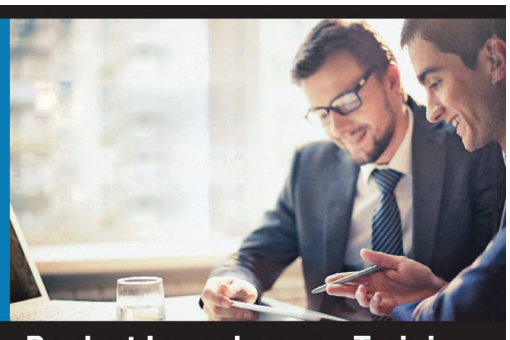

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Mississauga plans to extend deal with HP for another two years

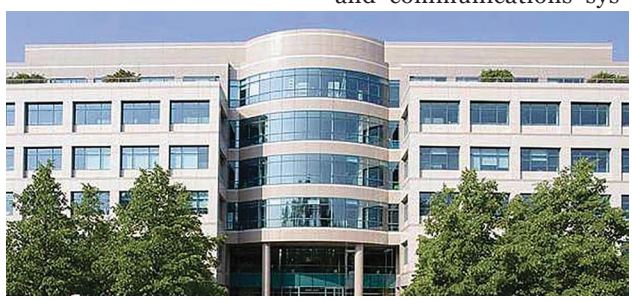
The City of Mississauga plans to extend its computer systems supplier relationship with Hewlett Packard Canada for another two years.

In a recent report to the general committee, Gary Kent, the commissioner of corporate services, recommends the city continue to use HP as Mississauga's single source supplier of servers and storage systems, including maintenance and IT support, until Oct. 2019.

The computer giant has its Canadian head office on Spectrum Way in western Mississauga, where it employs about 1,500 people. Its servers and storage software have been the standard for the city since 2005.

"The city uses HP server and storage equipment to run all business applications," Kent's report noted.

"The city's IT infrastructure is comprised of servers and storage to support our operational and business needs for over 200 city systems" such as email, data processing, file sharing, transit scheduling, firefighting, records and communications sys-



Rexall owner McKesson Canada hires Dianne Carmichael as new head of strategy

Drug giant McKesson Canada has chosen veteran executive Dianne Carmichael as president of a key division and head of the company's corporate strategy.

McKesson, owner of 471 Rexall drug stores in Peel Region and across Canada, says it has hired Carmichael as its president of payor markets and head of corporate strategy and business development, effective immediately.

The former Bay Street and health care executive will be responsible for developing McKesson's payor strategy, and help identify efficiencies to improve services and cut costs for patients, hospitals, doctors and insurers.

All drug suppliers and pharmacy chains are under pressure from provincial governments to reduce the cost of prescription drugs, the fastest-growing part of Ontario's $53 billion health care system. That means Rexall, Shoppers Drug Mart and other big players are trying to develop ways to cut costs.

"Dianne is an innovative and inspired leader with over 25 years of executive management experience and a proven track record of building and growing businesses," said Domenic Pilla, CEO of McKesson Canada.

"I am confident she will provide a valuable perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing health care in Canada and help position the organization for long-term success."

Carmichael has held various senior roles within the consumer packaged goods, technology, financial services and health care industries and is a founding board member of Patients Canada and sits on the board of the Centre for the Commercialization of Regenerative Medicines.

"McKesson Canada is well positioned to make a meaningful impact on the way Canadians manage and receive health care and to drive advancements in the industry that will ultimately lead to better, more patient-centered care," she said.

Rexall Canada, with 7,300 employees and 471 pharmacies across the country, is based in north-central Mississauga on Cooper Avenue, near the Hershey Centre arena just south of Highway 401.

The company was bought by U.S. drug supplier McKesson Corp. for $3 billion last year from Edmonton's Katz Group -- a deal that's expected to shake up Canada's staid drug store sector.

The looming industry competition will pit two Peel Region companies against each other because Rexall's main rival is Shoppers Drug Mart, owned by the Brampton-based Loblaw grocery store giant.

The two are expected to battle in the expanding field of patient and health services as traditional drug stores deal with provincial government pressures to lower prescription drug prices to help rein in ballooning health care costs.

Dianne Carmichael (Submitted Photo)

Sears locations in Peel under chopping block as retailer seeks approval to liquidate

Sears stores at Erin Mills Town Centre and Bramalea City Centre malls appear headed for close-out sales and shutdown as the failed department store chain seeks court approval to liquidate all its remaining outlets.

The Mississauga and Brampton stores survived an earlier spate of closures in June that affected several Ontario locations, including Brockville, Cornwall, Cambridge, and Kingston.

At the time, Sears sought bankruptcy protection from creditors and looked for a buyer or major investor to keep its remaining stores alive.

But on Monday, Sears Canada revealed it has found no "white knight" and will be applying to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for approval to liquidate all of its remaining stores and assets. More than 12,000 jobs will be affected.

The court is expected to hear the retailer's motion on Friday, Oct. 13.

Pending court approval, liquidation sales at the Mississauga and Brampton stores and other retail locations would begin no earlier than Oct. 19 and last between 10 to 14 weeks.

Sears Canada was granted protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act in June and had been seeking new partners or buyers of its remaining stores.

"Sears Canada received and implemented going concern transactions for various lines of business, but following exhaustive efforts, no viable transaction for the company to continue as a going concern was received," the retailer said Monday.

"The company deeply regrets this pending outcome and the resulting loss of jobs and store closures."

The Canadian retail sector is littered with failed companies in recent decades -- from Eaton's and Simpsons to Zellers, Target Canada, Marks and Spencer, Dylex and now Sears. The stores collapsed for a number of reasons, from too much debt and changing consumer tastes to online shopping.

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Steelheads Hit The Road!

by **Brendan Lang**

The Mississauga Steelheads picked up their first win of the OHL season last Friday night, 5-4 over Sudbury at the Hershey Centre.

The Steelheads still sit in last place in their division but trail the Wolves by just two points. Next up, they're facing a four game road trip.

It kicks off with three consecutive games this weekend. They travel to Sarnia to take on the Sting tonight.

When that game concludes, they'll quickly travel to Flint, Michigan to do battle with the Firebirds on Saturday at 7 p.m. inside the Dort Federal Event Center.

On Sunday, they'll visit the Saginaw Spirit for a matinee, starting at 5.

The road trip concludes on Thursday the 19th of October against the Niagara Ice Dogs in St. Catharines.

Following a four point performance by Albert Michnac in last Friday's 5-4 win, he leads the Steelheads in scoring with seven points.

The Trout return to the Hershey Centre on Friday Oct. 20 to host the North Bay Battalion.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Golden Hawks Go for Three In a Row

The Caledon Golden Hawks (junior C) are sitting third in the PJHL's North Carruthers Division and are riding a mini two game winning streak. Caledon will get a chance to continue their winning ways when they travel to Stayner tonight to face off with the Siskins. On Sunday, the Golden Hawks go to Alliston to meet the Hornets at 6:30.

Next home game for Caledon's on Friday, Oct. 20 against Schomberg.

Hottest Hawk: Matt Magliozzi has recorded a remarkable 21 points in nine games to lead the team in scoring.

CALEDON GOLDEN HAWKS

Four Steelheads in the Spotlight for June

by **Joe Snider**

48 players from the Ontario Hockey League (including four Mississauga Steelheads) have been listed among NHL Central Scouting's October 'Players to Watch' list for the 2018 NHL Draft ,which takes place June 22-23 in Dallas, TX.

The 48 OHL players are included in a list of 108 CHL players, that also includes 33 from the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League and 27 from the Western Hockey League.

Six OHL players were assigned an 'A' rating indicating a first round candidate including Barrett Hayton of the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds, Ryan McLeod of the Mississauga Steelheads, Andrei Svechnikov of the Barrie Colts, Akil Thomas of the Niagara IceDogs and defencemen Evan Bouchard of the London Knights and Ryan Merkley of the Guelph Storm.

The first overall pick of the 2017 CHL Import Draft, Barrie's Svechnikov, has drawn particular interest from scouts having been a prominent talent in Russia for years.

"Svechnikov plays a responsible game without the puck, has a strong stride with good top-end speed, good instincts at reading the play to set up or be open for chances," Dan Marr, director of NHL Central Scouting told NHL.com's Mike Morreale.

"He also has an excellent finishing touch to bury his chances."

Nine OHL skaters and two goaltenders received a 'B rating', which indicates second/third round candidates. Top ranked goaltenders include Jacob Ingham of the Mississauga Steelheads and Jordan Kooy of the London Knights.

Twenty-nine skaters and two goaltenders received a 'C rating' which indicates fourth/fifth/sixth round candidates.

The London Knights lead the way with five players included in the rankings while the Mississauga Steelheads, Oshawa Generals and Ottawa 67's trail close behind with four each.

42 OHL players were selected in the 2017 NHL Draft including five players chosen in the first round.

Tippett Gets His Shot with Florida

by **Joe Snider**

Mississauga Steelhead Owen Tippett, the 10th overall pick in June's NHL Entry Draft, has made Florida's final 23-man roster.

The 18-year-old is eligible to play nine NHL games before his entry-level contract kicks in.

If that happens, the Panthers will have to decide whether he'll remain with the team for the remainder of the season or be returned to Mississauga and the Ontario Hockey League. Tippett tallied a career-high 44 goals and 31 assists in 60 games with the Trout last season.

Following Friday's opening night matchup against Tampa Bay, Tippett will attempt to become the first 18-year-old to stick with the Panthers since Aaron Ekblad in 2014-15. The teenager won the Calder trophy for his efforts.

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Chargers Aim to Get Back on Track

The OJHL's Mississauga Chargers (Junior A) are currently fourth out of 6 teams in the South Division of the leagues Southwest Conference.

The Chargers are coming off a week where they played four consecutive games, winning the first and then losing the next three.

They'll be out to turn things around when they meet the Dukes in Wellington on Friday (Oct. 13) at 7:30 p.m.

They'll then play host to the Milton Icehawks on Saturday night, 8 o'clock at Port Credit Memorial Arena.

Leading scorer Christopher Karabassis continues to put up big numbers for the Chargers -- with 21 points, including 9 goals in 15 games this season.

Week Three of ROPSSAA Features Several Lopsided Contests

by **Brendan Lang**

Photo Courtesy of Canadian Football Chat

Games in week three of tier one and tier two ROPSSAA football were played Wednesday (Oct. 4) and Thursday (Oct. 5).

Starting with tier one action, St. Roch (2-1-0) played Lorne Park (1-1-1) and St. Roch came out to play offensively and defensively, winning 20-8.

David Suzuki (1-1-1) was at St. Thomas Aquinas (0-2-0) and Suzuki won handily, 37-6.

St. Marcellinus (2-0-0) was in action against Our Lady Of Mount Carmel (2-1-0) and Marcellinus' defence shut down the Carmel offence, winning 24-3.

In tier two action, games were played on Wednesday starting with Mayfield (2-0-0) hosting Harold M. Brathwaite, (0-2-0) The Mayfield defence was solid from the start and Mayfield won in a walk, 45-0.

St. Augustine (3-0-0) took on Robert F. Hall (1-1-0).

The game was tight throughout and St. Augustine came away with a slim 19-14 victory.

St. Francis Xavier (1-1-0) was at Clarkson (1-1-0). The home team won 42-14.

Meadowvale (1-0-0) played St. Joan Of Arc (1-2-0).

Meadowvale ended up winning by a 28 point margin, 42-14. The final game of the week was played between Fletcher's Meadow (1-1-0) and Humberview, (0-3-0). Fletcher's Meadow won a low scoring affair, 10-0.

Iceland Arena Rink Dedication

Ward 3 Mississauga councillor Chris Fonseca helps Fran Rider drop the puck during a dedication ceremony at Iceland Arena on Oct. 7, 2017. Rink 1 was renamed after Rider in appreciation for her efforts spearheading the development of local women's hockey in the city. (Photo Courtesy of OWHA Hockey)

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Vellieux Returns to Brampton

Yannick Veilleux has been reassigned to the ECHL's Brampton Beast from Montreal's American Hockey League affiliate, the Laval Rocket.

Veilleux, a 24-year-old left winger from St-Hippolyte, Quebec, appeared in 11 contests with the Beast last season and scored three goals and eight assists for 11 points with 31 penalty minutes.

He spent the majority of the 2016-17 season in the American Hockey league with the St. John's IceCaps and appeared in 53 contests, scoring six goals to accompany ten assists and 59 penalty minutes.

To date, Veilleux has appeared in 201 regular season AHL games with the Peoria Rivermen, Chicago Wolves and IceCaps, plus another 73 ECHL games with the Beast and the Kalamazoo Wings.

As a junior, Veilleux appeared in 247 QMJHL contests with the Shawinigan Cataractes and Moncton Wildcats and won a Memorial Cup with Shawinigan in 2012.

Bombers Gunning for a W at Home and in Waterloo this Weekend

by **Brendan Lang**

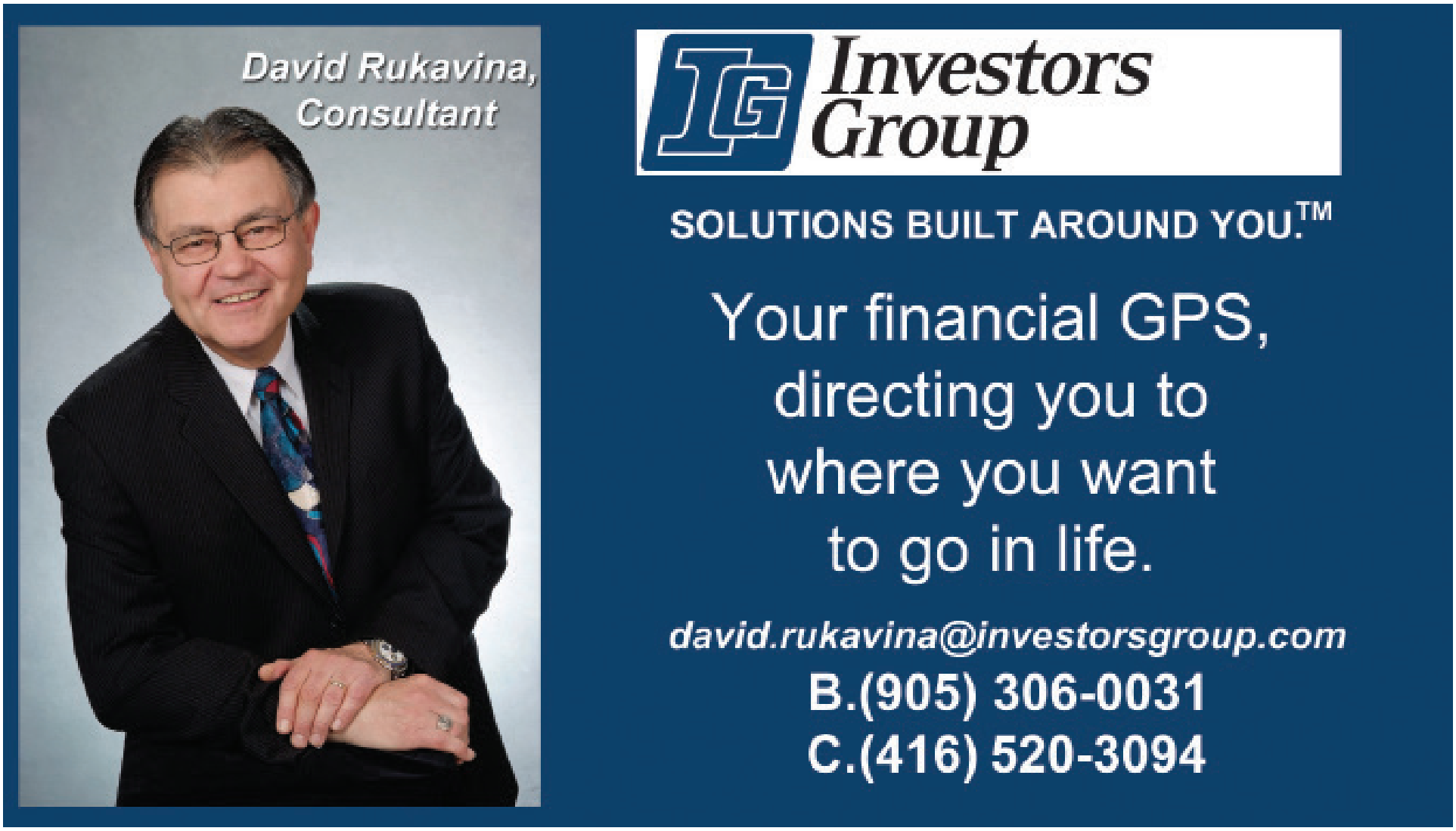
The Brampton Bombers (5 and 4) currently sit fourth in the (Junior B) GOJHL's 8 team Midwest Conference tied with the (5 and 6) Elmira Sugar Kings.

The Bombers have lost three straight and will look to get back on track with a home and home series this weekend against the Waterloo Siskins.

First the Bombers will host the Siskins at Memorial Arena Friday night at 7:30.

Sunday Oct. 15, Brampton's in Waterloo for an afternoon contest starting at 1.

Patrick Del Vecchio's continuing his offensive tear with a Bomber leading 16 points in just nine games.



Brampton Beast October Schedule

The Beast hold their Season Opener at Adirondack on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Following this, the Home Opener (with host Manchester) kicks off on Sunday, Oct. 15 at 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 11 a.m., the Beast meet Manchester again.

They'll then head on to Kalamazoo for a game Saturday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, October 22 at 2 p.m.

The Beast will then host Wheeling on Friday, Oct. 27 at 7:15 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 29 at 2 p.m.

Boucher Joins the Beast!

by **Joe Snider**

The Brampton Beast, ECHL affiliate of the Montreal Canadiens, have another new player in the fold.

Forward Jordan Boucher has signed a two-way AHL/ECHL deal with the Laval Rocket and has been assigned to the Beast.

A Montreal native, Boucher is set to start his first full professional season with the Beast. He played four seasons of NCAA hockey with Clarkson University from 2013-14 to 2016-17.

During his senior year last season, he finished fourth in team scoring with ten goals and 16 assists for 26 points in 30 games played.

In 107 career NCAA games, he scored 27 goals and added 41 assists for 68 points with 58 penalty minutes.

He made his professional debut at the end of the 2016-17 season with the Binghamton Senators of the American Hockey League.

In nine games with Binghamton, he was held off the scoresheet and recorded a -1 rating.

Steelheads' 2017-18 Broadcast Game Schedule

Date	Visitors	Time	Station	Channel
Friday, Oct. 20	North Bay	7 p.m.	YourTV	368
Sunday, Oct. 22	London	2 p.m.	Rogers	368
Sunday, Oct. 29	Niagara	2 p.m.	YourTV	368
Friday, Nov. 3	Owen Sound	7 p.m.		
Sunday, Nov. 5	Peterborough	2 p.m.	YourTV	368
Friday, Nov. 10	Saginaw	7 p.m.		
Sunday, Nov. 12	Hamilton	2 p.m.	Cable 14	368
Wednesday, Nov. 15	Erie	11 p.m.		
Friday, Nov. 17	Oshawa	7 p.m.	Rogers	368
Sunday, Nov. 19	Niagara	2 p.m.	YourTV	368
Friday, Nov. 24	Sarnia	7 p.m.		
Friday, Dec. 8	Barrie	7 p.m.	Rogers	368
Sunday, Dec. 10	Hamilton	2 p.m.	Cable 14	368
Sunday, Dec. 17	Sudbury	2 p.m.		
Friday, Dec. 29	Windsor	7 p.m.		
Thursday, Jan. 4	Sault Ste Marie	7 p.m.		
Friday, Jan. 19	Barrie	7 p.m.	Rogers	368
Sunday, Jan. 21	Kingston	2 p.m.	YourTV	368
Friday, Jan. 26	Peterborough	7 p.m.		
Sunday, Jan. 28	Sudbury	2 p.m.		
Thursday, Feb. 1	Guelph	7 p.m.	Rogers	368
Friday, Feb. 2	North Bay	7 p.m.	YourTV	368
Wednesday, Feb. 14	Kitchener	11 a.m.	Rogers	368
Monday, Feb. 19	Flint	2 p.m.		
Friday, Feb. 23	Niagara	7 p.m.	YourTV	368
Friday, Mar. 2	North Bay	7 p.m.		
Sunday, Mar. 4	Erie	2 p.m.		
Friday, Mar. 9	Oshawa	7 p.m.	Rogers	368
Friday, Mar. 16	Ottawa	7 p.m.		
Sunday, Mar. 18	Kingston	2 p.m.	YourTV	368

Shaw Boomhower

Age: 18

Position: Center/Left Wing

Height: 5'11"

Weight: 185 lbs

Birthplace: Belleville, Ontario

Shaw Boomhower played his 2014-15 minor hockey season with the Quinte Red Devils and was not drafted by a single OHL team. The next season, he suited up for the Picton Pirates of the Ontario Junior Hockey League (OJHL). After his year with Picton, Mississauga took a chance and signed Boomhower as a free agent in 2016. He made the team out of training camp that year and played in 60 contests for the Trout. Now after being overlooked in the OHL draft, he looks to be a selection in the NHL Entry Draft as he is eligible in 2018.

Trent Fox

Age: 20

Position: Left Wing

Height: 6'3"

Weight: 205 lbs

Birthplace: Chatham, Ontario

Trent Fox played for the London Jr. Knights in 2012-13 and was drafted to the OHL that same year by the Erie Otters in the fifth round 80th overall. Fox did not make the team that year and spent his season playing for Ridley College. The next year, he made the team out of camp and appeared in 35 games with Erie before being traded to the Belleville Bulls to finish the 2014-15 season. After one full season with the Bulls he was traded for a second time, this time to the Mississauga Steelheads. Scouts say Fox is a solid all around forward who brings a physical element to his game.

Thomas Harley

Age: 16

Position: Defenceman

Height: 6'2"

Weight: 154 lbs

Birthplace: Jamesville, USA

Bio: Thomas Harley was born in Jamesvile, USA but played his minor hockey for the Vaughn Kings. He scored 24 points as a defenceman with Vaughn and was drafted by the Steelheads with their first round pick 14th overall. He made the team out of camp this season and has appeared in all four contests the Steelheads have played. He is one of nine rookies on the roster. Harley looks to be a top prospect for the 2019 Entry Draft.

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Celebrating Coming Out Day in Peel this October

by **Jo-Anne Beggs**

Settling in Mississauga over the past four years after many years living and working in the U.S.A., I've faced a myriad of challenges in rebuilding my life from zero.

I'd left for the States to complete my Masters in Social Work after years in the bilingual corporate Customer Service world.

I returned with a new career, zero connections to the Social Work community and very few to the LGBTTIQA2S community, of which I am a part.

I launched a private practice as an R.S.W., specializing in trauma/PTSD and with a strong interest in serving and supporting the LBTTIQA2S community. For several years, I practiced in downtown Toronto and Port Credit.

Fast forward to spring 2017: - the time came to centralize my services to Mississauga, closing my downtown office. The decision was not easy!

I realized that after four years back in the GTA, my connection to my community was primarily made through my clients!

I've been fortunate to work with teens coming out as gay and/or transgender and adults who've "come out" and live and love in their authenticity across the gender and sexual orientation spectrums.

I recognized that in closing my downtown practice I would need to dedicate myself to building LGBTTIQA2S services in my hometown! I personally was experiencing isolation and a lack of sense of community.

Services, while wonderful, are few for a city like Peel, which has over 800,000 residents. I heard this repeatedly from the LGBTTIQA2S people I encountered in Peel.

It was the Orlando massacre that brought it home for me. To attend a vigil meant going to Church St., Toronto. Distance can create tremendous barriers.

I heard of teens and young adults, wanting to attend but unable due to the barrier of excessive time and expense of pubic transportation. Adults wanting to attend but after long work days unable to face the challenges of traffic, parking, crowds. In that shadow of that tragedy, I found myself remembering the adage that "the personal is political".

As I created my office space in Mississauga, I created the hashtag #PromotingPrideInPeel. I made the personal vow and professional commitment to creating services for the community in Peel, making connections with other providers, to meet needs and help promote a more tangible experience of community in Peel.

Which brings me to Oct. 11. when we held a Coming Out Day Meet & Greet. I extended an invitation to the LBGTTIQA2S community to join me in celebrating being out and proud during Coming Out Day!

Whether one is out, has been "forever", is in the process or questioning... please join me.

My intention was to create an event to honour the 29th anniversary of Coming Out Day. In doing so, I want people to meet, make connections, celebrate themselves and Pride, and to promote a greater experience and sense of community in the 905.

The need is there and, in my experience, often expressed as being a great need for our citizens to feel more integrated and represented in Peel.

Every community seeks a sense of self. And to see itself reflected in society in which it exists. For many in the LGBTIQ2S community, the same need exists.

Coming Out Day was forged of the idea, and I remember it well, that if every LBGTTIQA2S person "came out" everything would change.

The powers of persecution would disappear as we "came out" in numbers. One would need not hide in fear, remain closeted as shame and stigma were erased with the act of "coming out' on a widespread level.

For me, "coming out" took time. I didn't realize one could live "a gay life". Seems so bizarre in today's context but was very real 29 years ago. "Coming out", as difficult as it was, allowed me to step into my authenticity. I claimed myself. I owned myself and my truth.

It's been said that "coming out is a continual process", and it is. "Coming out" first to oneself. Then typically to closest friends. Then it may be a continuous process of "coming out", i.e. to family, to extended family, to co-workers, to acquaintances, to medical professionals, etc. Or, one may make the choice to not "come out" in

certain realms, i.e. professionally or to family. I once met a woman who tol

While I've been "out" for about 30 years, my process of "coming out" continues as I establish myself professionally.

I do it for my "tribe" who can't, or not yet. I do it for myself because I'm proud, proud of the challenges I've faced and overcome and proud of the challenges my community has faced.

I'm out. I'm proud. I speak. I'm visible. I'm "out" always because I never know who may need my visibility, my voice to validate their experience, to encourage them toward their own "coming out" to self and others. To stepping into esteem, pride and growing happiness!

I love the changes that I've observed since childhood: such great diversity and vitality! Energetic, creative, responsive people in all walks of life.

Whatever I can do to contribute to enhancing life in the 905, I'm in!

Visual Arts Mississauga kicks off 40th annual juried show

Visual Arts Mississauga will be kicking its 40th annual Juried Show of Fine Arts next year with a mix of eclectic artwork from new and established artists.

The arts organization will be displaying selected works at the Art Gallery of Mississauga from Jan. 11 - Feb. 10, and is inviting artists throughout Ontario to apply for the event.

The event marks the 30th year the AGM has hosted the show, and marks a major milestone for art in the city, said VAM executive director Annis Karpenko.

"2018 is an incredible milestone for our organization and the arts community here in Mississauga," she said. "Our partnership with the AGM is indicative of the collaborative energy that flows between Mississauga's arts, culture and heritage organizations."

VAM has also announced a panel of jurors to look over the submissions for the show, including interactive artist/producer Faisal Anwar, multimedia producer John Armstrong and Toronto-based writer, editor and curator Jayne Wilkinson.

The juried show is open to all emerging and established artists. The deadline to apply for the show is Sunday Nov. 5 at midnight. For submission information, visit www.visualartsmississauga.com.

Shazia Javed's photograph, "Can You Hear Me", the first place recipient of the VAM39 Juried Show. (Submitted Photo)

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Fire Prevention Week - Safety Tips and Seminars in Peel

by **Alex Gregory**

Fire departments and safety advocates throughout Peel will be holding a variety of workshops and events next week to acknowledge Fire Prevention Week, which wil run until Oct. 14.

Every second counts when dealing with a fire. A few seconds can mean the difference between a family escaping safely from their property or a tragic incident.

This year's theme, "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out", reinforces the need for all residents in Peel to have an escape plan.

The three cities in the region will be conducting their own set of workshops and events to further inform the public about this vital initiative.

Caledon

Caledon Fire & Emergency Services is reminding all households to develop a home escape plan together and practice it.

A plan includes working smoke alarms on every level of the home, in every bedroom and near all sleeping areas.

It also includes two ways out of every room, usually a door and a window, with a clear path to an outside meeting place a safe distance from the home, like a lamppost or fire hydrant.

"In a typical home fire, you may have as little as a few minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds," says Caledon fire chief Darryl Bailey.

"Home escape planning is critical in a fire situation. It ensures that everyone in the household knows how to use that small window of time wisely."

There are a number of open houses scheduled in Caledon.

Residents are invited to attend and enjoy a complimentary pancake breakfast while learning more about general fire safety, making a home escape plan and house trailer safety.

Saturday, Oct. 14 (7 – 11 a.m.) -- 19630 Main Street, Alton

Sunday, Oct. 15 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.) -- 17177 Regional Road 50, Palgrave

Details can be found at www.caledon.ca/calendar.

Mississauga

Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services (MFES) is urging residents to learn quick tips on how to keep their families safe.

Simple actions including replacing alarms every 10 years, changing alarm batteries, preparing and practising a home escape plan can save lives.

"It's not an option. For survival, residents must prepare and practise a home escape plan with everyone that lives in their home," said Mississauga Fire Chief Tim Beckett.

"Keeping your family safe takes very little work so it's surprising that more families aren't making fire safety a priority."

To support Fire Prevention Week, MFES will be at various locations throughout the city to talk to residents about what they can do to keep their homes and families safe. A full schedule of fire prevention activities in Mississauga can be viewed by visiting the MFES website at www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/fire.

Brampton

Fires in the home today spread faster than ever," says BFES Acting Chief Peter Gatto.

"You could have less than two minutes to escape your home once the smoke alarm goes off, so we want every Brampton resident to develop and practice a home escape plan today."

Gatto's remarks were shared by Mayor Linda Jeffrey, who said that everyone has a responsibility to understand the ways we can help protect ourselves and our families in the event of a fire."

"Fire Prevention Week is a time filled with activities which are designed to remind all of us of the importance of being prepared," she said. When you see a fire truck out around the city (this week), be sure to stop by and speak to our firefighters."

BFES personnel will be joining Fire Prevention Week partners, including Domino's at locations across Brampton to deliver these important safety messages to Brampton residents.

On Thursday, Oct. 5, City Hall will be hosting a special kick-off and flag-raising ceremony for Fire Prevention Week.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week in Brampton, go to www.bramptonfire.com.

Fire Safety Tips

Home escape planning is one of the most basic but fundamental elements of home fire safety and can make the difference between life and death in a fire situation.

Cooking-related fires are the leading cause of home fire injuries.

Consider these additional tips and recommendations for developing and practicing a home escape plan:

• Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.

• Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.

• Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.

• Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.

• Smoke alarms and alert devices such as strobe lights, pillow or bed shakers can help those who are hearing impaired escape from a fire.

• Fire can spread rapidly through your home, leaving you as little as one or two minutes to escape safely once the alarm sounds.

• Home fire sprinklers can control and may even extinguish a fire in less time than it would take the fire department to arrive on scene.

• Close doors behind you as you leave — this may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.

• Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

• Portable fire extinguishers can be used in the following instances when the fire is confined to a small area; not growing; and the room is not filled with smoke.

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Brampton approves new Culture Master Plan

Last week, Brampton City Council announced that they would be initiating development of the city's first Culture Master Plan, as a way to spearhead a new direction for local arts and culture.

When the plan is complete in June 2018, it will guide the delivery of municipal cultural services and investments for the next 10 years.

Development of the plan will include significant research throughout the fall and engagement with Brampton residents, artists, cultural organizations, civic leaders, visitors and all stakeholders in early 2018.

Following a competitive Request for Proposals process that took place over the summer, Lord Cultural Resources and Nordicity have been retained as the consulting team to lead research and community engagement, alongside a community-based Steering Committee who will provide expertise, represent diverse interests and oversee the plan's development.

A vibrant arts and culture scene is a key component of any great city, said Economic Development and Culture director Bob Darling.

"By creating a Culture Master Plan for Brampton, we are pro-actively planning for and investing in the quality of our arts and culture scene, and in turn, enhancing its place value and economic potential."

Celebrate Diwali safely this weekend

Diwali is fast approaching, and Brampton Fire is urging all residents to act safely when using fireworks this weekend.

This year's Diwali festivities take place next Wednesday, Oct. 18 and Thursday, Oct. 19.

Diwali is one of four approved holidays each year where short-range fireworks are allowed on private property, without the need for a permit.

Short-range fireworks are those that tend to travel less than three metres (10 feet) when set off (e.g. fountains, wheels, ground spinners, sparklers). All other rocket-type fireworks are banned in Brampton.

Residents are cautioned that fireworks are not allowed to be used on the street, sidewalks, within City parks or on municipal or school properties.

When using short-range fireworks on your property, the following safety precautions must be conducted:

- You must have a container of water or a hose line that's filled with water available to extinguish fireworks

- You must never light a firework or hold a lit firework in your hand, other than a sparkler

- After using sparklers, place them in a container of water to fully cool before disposal

- Allow all fireworks to fully cool before disposal

The City of Brampton has also introduced a mandatory annual course for fireworks vendors before they can be licensed to sell.

New Fireworks and Licensing by-laws were approved last year by Brampton City Council, which allow the use of short-range fireworks on all Brampton residential properties on Victoria Day, Canada Day, Diwali and New Year's Eve, without the need for a permit.

Safety is the top priority, as the by-law also bans other types of fireworks that pose a great risk of injury or damage to property.

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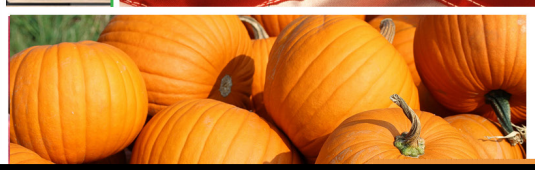

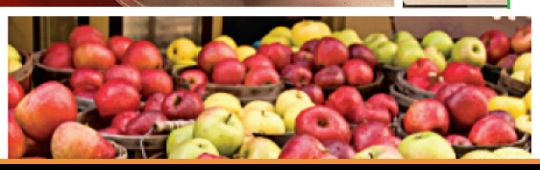

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12

Pazan Gallery is **STOP 12** on the 18th annual *Lakeshore Art Trail*. *The Art Trail* is an artistic-community based art show. This art show features the finest local, visual artists selling their artworks out of their studios or local businesses throughout the villages of Port Credit and Clarkson.

Bring your family and support our local culture by supporting our local artistic community and businesses.

1 2361 Corsica Court
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

2 SHERIDAN NURSERIES
606 Southdown Road
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

3 THE ARTIST'S FRIEND
1720 Lakeshore Rd. W.
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

4 LORNE PARK LIBRARY
1474 Truscott Drive
Sat. 9 am - 5 pm, Sun. 1-5 pm

5 51387 Andros Boulevard
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

6 1598 Onondaga Place
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

@LakeshoreArtTrail

7 PORT CREDIT LIBRARY
20 Lakeshore Road E.
Sat. 10 am-5 pm, Sun. 11 am-5 pm

8 1180 Stavebank Road
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

9 1220 Old River Road
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

10 1319 Broadmoor Avenue
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

11 107 Eaglewood Blvd.
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

12 PAZAN GALLERY
6A Brant Avenue
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

13 SPLASH OF CHARM
6B Brant Avenue
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

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Nike opens first clearance store in Mississauga

Nike has opened its first-to-Canada clearance store at a south Mississauga mall.

The shoemaker officially launched its Nike Clearance Store at Dixie Outlet Mall earlier this month, featuring a new retail concept in synergy with other Nike stores in the area.

The 20,000-square foot retail space offers a selection of seasonal clearance fashions

including men's, women's and kid's apparel, streetwear and footwear. The store was designed to offer traditional outlet pricing and greater savings to local customers.

The first-to-market concept works well with other brand name outlets at the mall, said Cominar REIT vice president Paul Crane.

"We are confident that this exciting retail addition will attract new customers and generate impressive sales for Dixie Outlet Mall."

Dixie Outlet Mall is home to over 120 retailers, including brand name outlet concepts like Tommy Hilfiger Outlet, GUESS Factory Store, Calvin Klein Outlet, Urban Planet, Footlocker Outlet, Winners, Levi's Outlet, SoftMoc Shoe Rack, Famous Footwear and ALDO. It's located near downtown Toronto along the Queen Elizabeth Highway.

Submitted Photo

P.C.'s Farmers Market Finishes Up for 2017

Relationships: An asset or a living nightmare...

by **Bibiana Cecala**

Entering a serious relationship is as important as figuring out what you want to do with the rest of your life.

This choice can be even far more significant than choosing a career. A serious partnership is like an investment, requiring you to become vulnerable with one person, for the length of time you choose to be with that person.

Landing the man of your dreams — aka Mr. Right for you — is like buying your new home.

You don't look at one house and decide, "Yep! This is the one!" without first seeing the other houses that interest you, not to mention ordering an appraisal to learn more about the status and complete history of the potential new home you will be moving into.

Why, then do we women not inquire with just as much due diligence and fervor when it comes to relationships?

Ladies, you need that appraisal done before moving into your new dream home.

If you didn't get one, eventually all the problems and issues that were hidden, unbeknownst to you, would be exposed to the surface and the damage resulting would be extensive, not to mention the tab to fix these issues!

Likewise, relationships must be seen as they truly are: a lifelong investment that will be a woman's greatest asset or her absolute worst living nightmare.

In Canada alone, the pandemic of domestic violence averages a staggering $7.4 billion per year in post traumatic DV therapy, counseling, support groups and the like, including doctor visits, medicinal prescriptions and use of police and judicial/legal services.

Nearly 1 in 3 women and girls are affected by intimate partner abuse, or find themselves in unhealthy partnerships.

67% of all Canadians say they personally know at least one woman who has been sexually, physically, emotionally and mentally abused, and on average, every six days, a woman in Canada is killed by her intimate partner.

On any given day in Canada, more than 3,000 women (along with their 2,500 children) are living in an emergency shelter to escape domestic violence.

Abuse can be physical, but it can also be emotional, mental, financial, spiritual and sexual.

If you suspect you may be in an unhealthy relationship, or know someone who is, help is available 24 hours a day via Assaulted Women's Help line, which can be reached at 1-866-863-0511.

Bibiana Cecala is a domestic violence survivor and advocate For more information, call 121dealbreakers@gmail.com.

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Great Art for Great Lakes launch in Port Credit

A new community art project was unveiled last week in Port Credit that celebrates Canada's 150th anniversary.

Great Art for Great Lakes, in partnership with the Port Credit Library, hosted a launch event for "Mi Lake", a piece created by local artist Vanessa Logan alongside community contributors.

Logan asked participants to share photos or drawings of Lake Ontario.

She transferred them onto pieces of sea glass and then assembled the sea glass-photo artifacts into Mi Lake, a triptych of three tall, rectangular columns in shades of aquamarine, blue, green and white, mimicking the water of Lake Ontario.

"I love the community's enthusiasm for contributing images to Mi Lake," says Logan. "Participants of every age shared great Lake Ontario connections, whether it was a distinct memory or a favourite view. It was an honour to collect and magnify those connections for Great Art for Great Lakes."

The Great Art for Great Lakes initiative has sponsoring similar projects in seven other Great Lakes communities, including Kingston, Hamilton, Thunder Bay and the Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

"We want to celebrate the grandeur and importance of the largest group of freshwater lakes on Earth," says Karen Kun, one of the organizers of Great Art for Great Lakes.

"It is crucial we connect with the Great Lakes so we can understand and safeguard them for our current and future quality of life.

Local artists collaboratively created works of art with local residents to honour the Great Lakes, share their stories and mark Canada's 150th birthday."

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Headwaters honors Equine Leadership at award ceremony

Four leaders in Caledon's equine industry were honored last week during an award ceremony held by Headwaters Leadership Group.

The leaders were lauded during the Headwaters Horse Country Excellence Awards, hosted at the Caledon Equestrian Park, which recognized industry achievement. Recipients, their guests and industry colleagues enjoyed a casual evening of networking, followed by awards for four individuals.

The awards recognized the following Headwaters industry leaders.

The Leadership in Industry Building award was given to EMG partners Craig Collins, John Weir and Bob Carey by Caledon Councillor Nick deBoer. The Equestrian Management Group won for helping position the town and Headwaters Horse Country as an internationally recognized destination for horse sport competition.

The Leadership in Promoting the Equine Sport award was given to Angelstone Tournaments in recognition of their dedication to the ongoing growth and development of the equine sport and industry in Headwaters.

"Angelstone Tournaments is bringing out new competitors and new audiences to equestrian sport, which is a great thing for our industry," said Dutch Masters Design & Construction president Gary vanBolderen.

The Leadership for the Future award was presented to Susan Fripp in recognition of her passion for the industry and her commitment to developing meaningful partnerships between youth and the industry.

The award recognized her lifetime commitment to providing a place where people of all ages can learn to ride horses safely and correctly, and to provide a place where visitors can learn about the equine industry.

Finally, the Leadership in Equine Business award was presented to Nobleton Feed Mill & Budson's in recognition of their commitment to and impact on the development and growth of the industry in the Headwaters region.

The award was presented to Alf Budweth Jr. and Dave Budweth, owners of Nobleton Feed Mill and Budson's, and honoured and recognized the entire team.

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50th Anniversary Events in Mississauga This Weekend

A pair of events honoring the 50th anniversary of two facilities in Mississauga will be held this weekend.

Huron Park Recreation Centre is turning 50 years old this month. On Saturday (Oct. 21), residents are invited to celebrate the anniversary with a free skate, free lane and fun swims and other family-friendly activities.

This special event is part of a full-year of City programs planned in recognition of Canada's 150th anniversary. An official ceremony is scheduled for 12:30 p.m., featuring local dignitaries including Ward 7 Councillor Nando Iannicca, Communty Services Commissioner Paul Mitchum and special guests.

After the official ceremony, a free BBQ lunch will be available for the first 600 people or until supplies last. The barbecue runs from 1 - 2:30 p.m.

A series of family-friendly activities will follow the ceremony, and will run from 1 - 4 p.m.

Free parking will be available at the facility.

Huron Park Recreation Centre is located at 830 Paisley Blvd. West.

For more information about Huron Park Recreation Centre, visit mississauga.ca/huronpark.

Lincoln M. Alexander Secondary School (formerly known as Westwood Secondary School) will also be hosting a 50th year anniversary celebration this weekend.

With over 500 alumni expected, the celebration will include a tour of the school, performances by current students, a tribute to some key community members, a BBQ, and an opening of a time capsule.

Former student Kerry Lee Crawford (from G98.7 FM) will be the Master of Ceremonies.

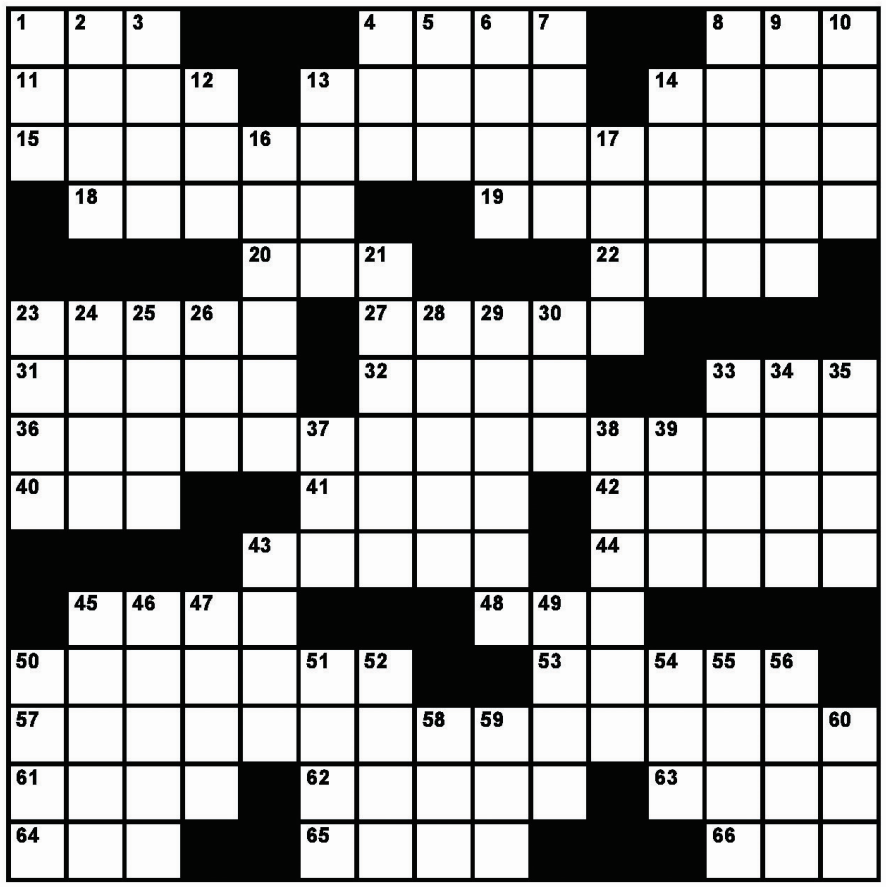
The event will begin at 10 a.m., with an opening ceremony being held at noon. The time capsule opening will commence at 1:30 p.m.

Lincoln M. Alexander Secondary School is located at 3545 Morning Star Drive.

Alumni can reconnect with high school friends on http://www.lmassalumni.com.

PDN Crossword

Puzzle by Myles Mellor



Across

1. Short order?
4. Medieval worker
8. Nile viper
11. Diamond Head locale
13. Aboveboard
14. Collagist's need
15. Tree trimmings
18. Harsh
19. Insistent
20. Havana residue
22. Prying
23. Command to a dog
27. The ____ bird catches the worm!
31. Lord's worker
32. Native Canadian from Ontario
33. Tire meas.
36. Lodge bashes
40. Governor in the Ottoman Empire
41. Too
42. Picasso's equipment
43. Foils
44. Soft fabric
45. "General Hospital," e.g.
48. Pilot's announcement, briefly
50. Heart related
53. Excessive
57. "Should _____ be forgot....."
61. Above
62. With violet or conservative
63. Old Italian bread
64. A pop
65. Away from the wind
66. Batman foe

Down

1. Carton
2. Flees
3. All __ Jazz
4. Min. part (for short)
5. Latin "I"
6. Like hen's teeth
7. Linen fabric
8. Healing juices
9. Bright
10. Exasperating child
12. Put to work
13. Camera part
14. Computer rule of bad input, bad output
16. Ducks and ____
17. Wee
21. Badger
23. Thick piece
24. Snowman prop
25. Inspiring a feeling of fear
26. Bio stat
28. Get out of bed
29. Sleep
30. Pastoral place
33. Galileo's birthplace
34. Percolate
35. Cruise stopover
37. Gullible one
38. Take back
39. Road surface material
43. Sweeping
45. Balm
46. Mandate
47. Battlestar Galactica character
49. ____ sandwich
50. Campus store
51. Light greenish-blue
52. Select
54. Lentil sauce
55. Single piece
56. Light brown
58. Gobbled up
59. High dudgeon
60. Absorb, as a cost

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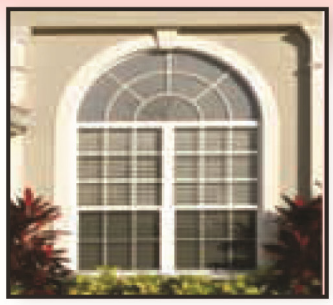
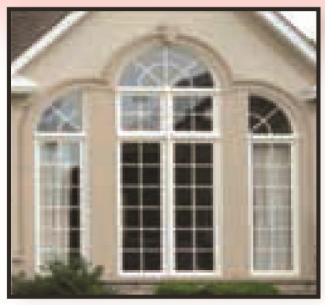

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